# Amendments to the Claims

1. **(Currently Amended)**   An information processing system comprising:

a main unit of an information processor;

an input means detachable from said main unit of the information processor, said input means for setting a startup password used for starting said main unit of the information processor;

a startup password storage means for storing ~~said~~ the startup password set by said input means;

a startup password presence checking means for determining whether or not ~~said~~ the startup password is stored in said startup password storage means; and

a startup password request means for requesting an operator to set ~~a~~ the startup password, wherein:

(i) said startup password request means requests ~~setting a~~ the operator to set the startup password by said input means ~~for starting said main unit of the information processor~~, if said input means is connected to said main ~~unit,~~ unit and ~~when a result of determination of~~ said startup password presence checking means ~~indicates absence of said~~ determines that the startup password is absent;

(ii) said main unit of the information processor ~~is turned into~~ enters a starting mode upon verification ~~of~~ that a password entered via said input means corresponds to the startup password, if said input means is connected to said main unit of the information ~~processor,~~ processor and ~~when the result of determination of~~ said startup password presence checking means ~~indicates presence of said~~ determines that the startup password is present; and

(iii) said main unit of the information processor ~~is turned into a~~ enters the starting mode regardless of ~~the result of determination of~~ whether said startup password presence checking means ~~as to whether presence or absence of said~~ determines that the startup password is present or absent, if said input means is not connected to said main unit of the information processor.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The information processing system as set forth in claim 1, wherein said main unit of the information processor comprises:

a startup condition storage means for storing a startup condition for starting said main unit of the information processor regardless of ~~a result of determination of~~ whether said startup password presence checking means determines that the startup password is present or absent;

a startup condition judging means for making a judgement as to whether or not the startup condition stored in said startup condition storage means is satisfied; and

a main unit starting means for starting said main unit of the information processor when ~~a result of determination of~~ said startup condition judging means ~~satisfies~~ judges that the startup condition is satisfied.

3. **(Currently Amended)** The information processing system as set forth in claim 1, wherein:

said main unit of the information processor further comprises an input means connection detecting means for detecting whether or not ~~an~~ said input means is connected to said main unit of the information processor; and

~~a startup condition for said main unit of the information processor is satisfied when a detected result of~~ said input means connection detection means detects that said input means is not connected to said main unit of the information processor, a startup condition for said main unit of the information processor is satisfied ~~indicates no connection~~.

Claims 4-7 **(Cancelled)**

8. **(Previously Presented)** The information processing system as set forth in claim 1, wherein said startup password request means includes a display means.

Claim 9 **(Cancelled)**

10. **(Currently Amended)** The information processing system as set forth in claim 8, wherein said display means ~~further~~ includes a supplementary input means provided with a touch panel.

Claim 11 **(Cancelled)**

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12. **(Currently Amended)** The information processing system as set forth in claim 1, wherein said startup password request means ~~further~~ includes a voice generation means for requesting setting of ~~a~~ the startup password with vocal sound produced by said voice generation means.


Claims 13-15 **(Cancelled)**


16. **(Currently Amended)** A method of processing information for an information processing system having a main unit of an information processor and an input means detachable from ~~said~~ the main unit of the information processor, said method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

(a) ~~setting a startup password by said input means for starting said main unit of the information processor;~~

~~(b) storing said set startup password;~~

~~(c)~~ detecting ~~presence or absence of said~~ whether or not a startup password is stored in the information processing system ~~in storage; and~~

~~(d)~~ requesting an operator to set ~~a~~ the startup password,

~~whereby:~~

~~(i) executing said step (d),~~ if ~~said~~ the input means is connected to ~~said~~ the main unit of the information processor, ~~and when a detected result in said step (c) indicates absence in storage;~~ said detecting detects that the startup password is absent;

(ii) ~~turning said~~ entering the main unit of the information processor into a startup mode upon verification that a password entered via the input means corresponds to the startup password, if ~~said~~ the input means is connected to ~~said~~ the main unit of the information processor, and ~~when~~ said detecting detects that the startup password is present ~~detected result in said step (c) indicates presence in storage~~; and

(iii) ~~turning said~~ entering the main unit of the information processor into ~~a~~ the startup mode ~~irrespective~~ regardless of whether said ~~detected result in said step (c)~~ detecting detects that the startup password is present or absent, if ~~said~~ the input means is not connected to ~~said~~ the main unit of the information processor.

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17. **(Currently Amended)** The method of processing information as set forth in claim 16, ~~further comprising the steps of~~ wherein:

~~storing in said main unit of the information processor,~~ a startup condition for starting ~~said~~ the main unit of the information processor ~~irrespective~~ regardless of whether said ~~detected result as to presence or absence of said startup password in storage~~ detecting detects that the startup password is present or absent is stored in the main unit of the information processor; and

the method of processing information further comprises:

determining whether or not ~~said stored~~ the startup condition is satisfied; and

starting ~~said~~ the main unit of the information processor when ~~said~~ the startup condition is satisfied.

18. **(Currently Amended)** The method of processing information as set forth in claim 16, further comprising ~~the steps of~~:

detecting whether or not ~~said~~ the input means is connected to ~~said~~ the main unit of the information processor; and

starting ~~said~~ the main unit of the information processor under a condition ~~that~~ when said detecting of whether or not the input means is connected detects that the input means is not connected to the main unit of the information processor ~~detected result indicates said input means not in connection thereto~~.

Claims 19-22 **(Cancelled)**

23. **(Currently Amended)** The method of processing information as set forth in claim 16, wherein said requesting comprises ~~further comprising the step of~~ displaying a request for setting ~~a~~ the startup password in a display screen.

Claim 24 **(Cancelled)**

25. **(Currently Amended)** The method of processing information as set forth in claim 23, further comprising ~~the step of~~ inputting supplementary information by means of a display screen touched by ~~an~~ the operator.

Claim 26  **(Cancelled)**


27.  **(Currently Amended)**  The method of processing information as set forth in claim 16, wherein said requesting comprises ~~further comprising the step of~~ requesting ~~an~~ the operator to set ~~a~~ the startup password with vocal sound.


Claim 28 **(Cancelled)**


29. **(Currently Amended)**   The information processing system as set forth in claim 2, wherein:

said main unit of the information processor further comprises an input means connection detecting means for detecting whether or not ~~an~~ said input means is connected to said main unit of the information processor; and

~~a startup condition for said main unit of the information processor is satisfied~~ when ~~a detected result of~~ said input means connection detection means ~~indicates no connection~~ detects that said input means is not connected to said main unit of the information processor, the startup condition for said main unit of the information processor is satisfied.


Claim 30  **(Cancelled)**


31.  **(Previously Presented)** The information processing system as set forth in claim 2, wherein said startup password request means includes a display means.


Claim 32  **(Cancelled)**


33.  **(Currently Amended)**  The method of processing information as set forth in claim 17, further comprising ~~the steps of~~:

detecting whether or not ~~said~~ the input means is connected to ~~said~~ the main unit of the information processor; and

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starting ~~said~~ the main unit of the information processor under a condition ~~that~~ when said detecting of whether or not the input means is connected detects that the input means is not connected to the main unit of the information processor ~~detected result indicates said input means not in connection thereto~~.

Claim 34 **(Cancelled)**

35. **(Currently Amended)** The method of processing information as set forth in claim 17, wherein said requesting comprises ~~further comprising the step of~~ displaying a request for setting ~~a~~ the startup password in a display screen.

Claim 36 **(Cancelled)**

37. **(Currently Amended)** The method of processing information as set forth in claim 17, wherein said requesting comprises ~~further comprising the step of~~ requesting ~~an~~ the operator to set ~~a~~ the startup password with vocal sound.

Claim 38 **(Cancelled)**